WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK

BITTERROOT RIVER BASIN

MONTANA

as of

JUNE 1, 1966

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT of AGRICULTURE ★ SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

Data included in this report were obtained in cooperation with other Federal, State and private organizations

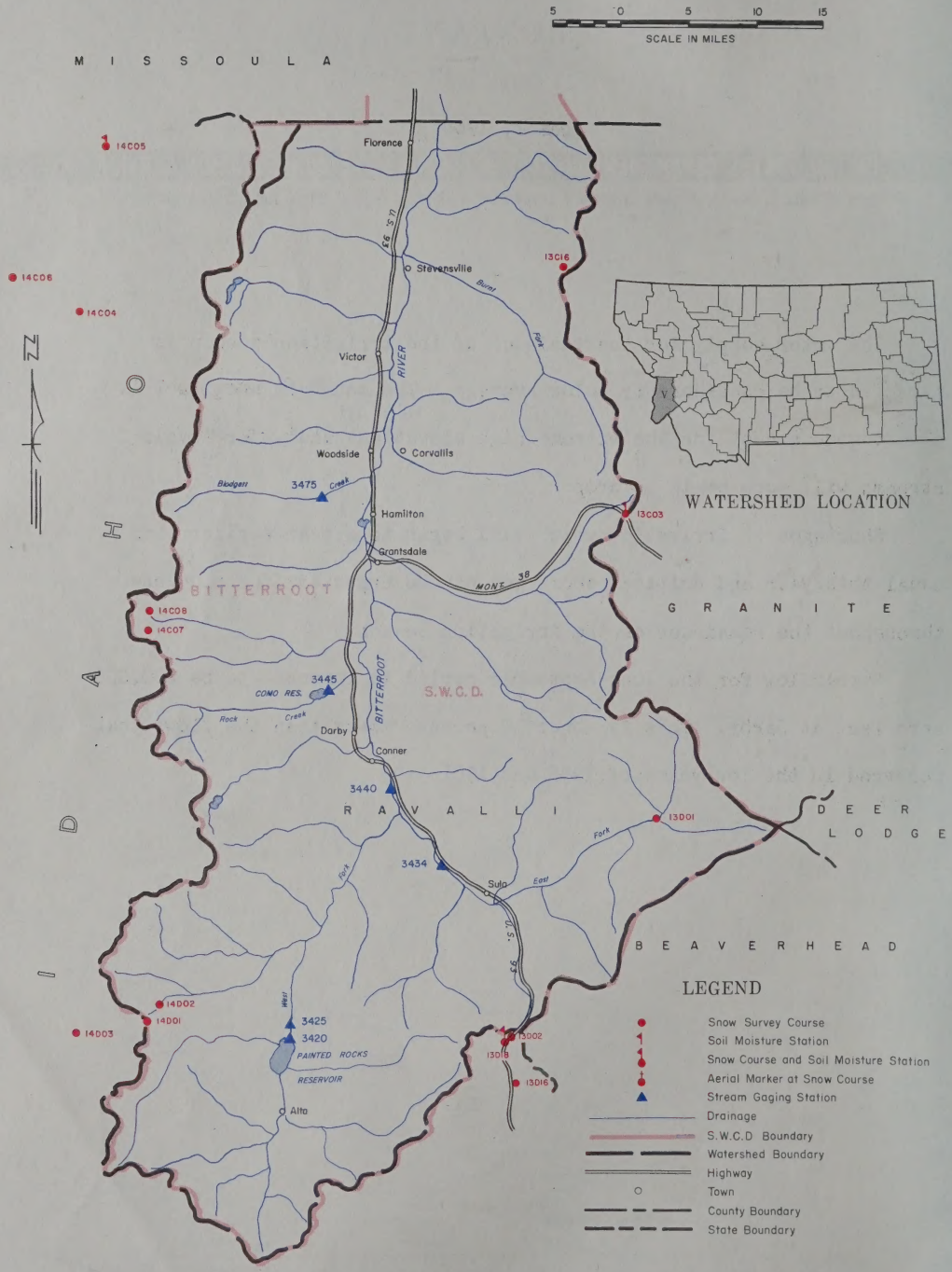
The water supply for the remainder of the irrigation season is expected to be considerably below average. The mountain snow pack is almost gone except for the extreme high elevations and water levels in streams will soon begin to drop.

Shortages of irrigation water will begin to appear earlier than usual this year and critical shortages can be expected from mid-June throughout the remainder of the irrigation season.

Streamflow for the June-September period is forecast to be 200,000 acre feet at Darby. This is about 10 percent lower than the flows that occurred in the low years of 1958 and 1961.

Report prepared by
P.E. FARNES AND S.E. COOK
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE—SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE
BOX 855, BOZEMAN, MONTANA 59715

BITTERROOT RIVER BASIN



MT-5 b

SNOW SURVEY DATA

WATERSHED V

AS OF MAY 15 and JUNE 1, 1966

(Inches)

SNOW COURSE			CURRENT DATA			PAST RECORD	
			DATE OF SURVEY	SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT	WATER CONTENT	
NO.	NAME	ELEVATION				LAST YEAR	AVERAGE
			MAY 15, 1966				
13D02	Gibbons Pass	7100	5/16	6	2.6	26.9	20.1*
14C07	Lost Horse	5940	5/17	26	11.8	33.0	-
13D22	Saddle Mountain	7940	5/16	30	12.4	34.4	-
13C03	Skalkaho Summit	7260	5/16	28	12.4	34.2	23.0*
14C08	Twin Lakes	6510	5/17	46	21.4	48.8	-
			JUNE 1, 1966				
13D02	Gibbons Pass	7100	5/31	0	0.0	14.6	6.7*
14C07	Lost Horse	5940	5/31	6	3.0	21.9	-
13D22	Saddle Mountain	7940	5/31	0	0.0	26.4	-
13C03	Skalkaho Summit	7260	6/1	44	24.0	24.0	14.1*
14C08	Twin Lakes	6510	5/31	18	9.4	37.3	-

SOIL MOISTURE DATA

AS OF JUNE 1, 1966

(Inches)

SOIL MOISTURE STATION			SOIL PROFILE		CURRENT DATA		PAST RECORD	
			DEPTH	FIELD CAPACITY	DATE OF SURVEY	SOIL MOISTURE	LAST YEAR	**AVERAGE
NO.	NAME	ELEVATION						
13D18M	Gibbons Pass	7100	48	7.1	5/31	6.8	6.8	-
14C05M	Lolo Pass	5250	48	10.6	5/26	9.8	10.1	-
13C03M	Skalkaho Summit	7260	48	10.8	5/31	9.8	10.2	-

NOTE: ALL AVERAGES BASED ON 1948-1962 (15 YEAR PERIOD). *ADJUSTED AVERAGE **AVERAGE FOR PERIOD OF RECORD

WATER SUPPLY FORECASTS

WATERSHED V

AS OF JUNE 1, 1966

(1000 Acre Feet)

NO.	RIVER AND FORECAST POINT	FORECAST PERIOD	FORECAST THIS YEAR	PERCENT AVERAGE	MEASURED FLOW LAST YEAR*	MEASURED FLOW AVERAGE
	BITTERROOT RIVER					
3440	Darby (near)	June-Sept.	200	65	425	307

*PROVISIONAL DATA FURNISHED BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

RESERVOIR STORAGE DATA

AS OF MAY 31, 1966

(1000 Acre Feet)

NO.	RESERVOIR	USABLE CAPACITY	THIS YEAR	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE
3445	Como	34.9	27.8	28.7	29.0
3420	Painted Rocks	31.7	32.4	33.2	32.4

NOTE: ALL AVERAGES BASED ON 1948-1962 (15 YEAR PERIOD).